(b) whether the delegation studied the Chinese version of Power Grid Management putting more emphasis on regional/provincial grid networks in contrast to Indian system of creation of a national grid; if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether the Power Grid Corporation has initiated work on improvement of bad dispatch/communication systems through advanced energy management systems?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRIANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) On the invitation of erstwhile State Power Corporation of China, a delegation comprising CMD, POWERGRID, a Joint Secretary in Ministry of Power and an Executive Director of POWERGRID visited China during January, 2003 to exchange experience on transmission system and grid operation.

(b) The delegation visited National and Regional Power Despatch Centres and various power stations including Three Gorges Project and HVDC station in China. The delegation also studied the Chinese power system *vis-a-vis* the power system in India. Chinese power system is being operated in six regional and twenty-nine provincial grids. China is in the process of interconnecting the regional grids which would ultimately culminate into formation of a National Grid. Thus, the Chinese transmission system is heading towards strong regional/inter-regional grids and National Grid like in India. As regards development of National grid in India, the country has completed its first phase and has entered into the second phase.

(c) POWERGRID has already completed its state-of-the-art Load Despatch and Communication facilities in Northern and Southern Regions. Similar Facilities are under implementation in Eastern, North-Eastern and Western Regions also.

Security in Central Government Offices

*213. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve security in Central Government Offices;

(b) whether Government consider the introduction of Finger Print Punching Cards will be of much help; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to introduce the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Keeping in view the current security scenario, the security of 44 office buildings in Delhi, owned or hired by the Central Government, under the security over of the Ministry of Home Affairs, has been entrusted to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), for providing comprehensive security to these office buildings.

Security arrangements in other office buildings located in Delhi, and in office buildings located outside Delhi, are made by the concerned offices either depart mentally, or with the assistance of concerned State/ Union Territory Government, consistent with the sensitivity of, and perception of threat to, such offices. The State/Union Territory Governments have been advised to make fool-proof arrangements for the security of vital installations and important Government establishments.

(b) and (c) Presently, access to Central Government offices in Delhi, under the security cover of MHA, is regulated through Identity Cards. Indentity Cards, centrally issued by the Secretariat Organisation of the Ministry of Home Affairs, bear the photograph and signature of the holder. These Identity Cards are checked manually by the sentries on duty. No decision has been taken on switch over to electronic access control system including those with or without bio-metric identification features.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

*215. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages proposed to be linked by roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in various States during 2003-2004;

(b) whether some of the States particularly States in hilly regions and tribal areas have requested for review of norms set for identification of villages proposed to be linked under the said scheme; and

(c) if so, the details of decisions taken by the Government in this regard?